Development of Minor Ports in Gujarat

1529. SHRI BRAHMAKUMAR BHATT: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the State Government of Gujarat has sent a proposal seeking Central Assistance for the development of minor ports in the States; and

(b) if so, the details of amount demanded by the State Government for the purpose and the amount sanctioned by the Central Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) No, Sir.

(b) Does not arise.

Cargo Handled by Pipav Port

1530. SHRI PRAFUL GORADIA: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the volume of tonnage that has been handled by the Pipav port during the last year;

(b) whether Government have made any efforts to see that the land locked States of Delhi, Haryana, Punjab and Rajasthan etc. make more use of the facilities available at Pipav; and

(c) if so, what has been the response of these State Government?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) to (c) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Super Highway Project

1531. SHRI JANARDHANA POOJARY: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to refer to answer to Unstarred questions 133 and 142 given in the Rajys Sabha on the 23rd February 1999 and State:

(a) the details of the Express Highways Project; and

(b) the progress so far made in the project?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) Sir, the question No. 133 and 142 pertain to North-South and East-west corridors combined with the Golden Quadrilateral connecting 4 metros. This project is not an exclusive Express Highway project, but involves construction of approximately 9,400 kms. of Express ways along alignments, widening of 1,400 Kms to six-lane and widening of 5,500 Kms to four-lane. The total estimated cost of the entire project is approximately Rs. 1,24,000 crores at 1999 prices.

(b) So far bids on BOT basis have been invited from private sector for four-laning of Jaipur-Kishangarh Section of NH-8 and bidders have been shortlisted for the Tumkur-Neelamangala Section of NH-4 and Hosur-Krishnagiri Section of NH-7. Bids for work at pints on North-South and East- Corridors have been received and work will be awarded very soon.

Amount Spent on National Highways in Maharashtra

1532. SHRI SATISHCHANDRA SITARAM PRADHAN: Will the Minister of SURFACE TRANSPORT be pleased to state:

(a) the total number of National Highways in Maharashtra; and

(b) the amount spent on them during the last three years?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF SURFACE TRANSPORT (DR. DEBENDRA PRADHAN): (a) There are 14 number of National highways in the state of Maharashtra.